

## Edna Terry, M. D.



"As the medical missionary stands and ministers all day to the poor, the maimed, the halt and the blind, until she almost feels their diseases clinging to her, she realizes in some faint degree what it meant when Himself took our infirmities upon Him and

that the sufferings of Christ were not because He had not where to lay His head, but because of the sins of the people and their indifference to the truth. As the burdens of their sins weigh upon her, she may feel that she is, in some small measure, filling up that which is behind, in the suffering of Christ."

"After a period of rest at home, I am glad to return to my work, yet it takes as much courage to start out the second time as it did the first, for one knows just then where the strain will come and what the difficulties will be."

"If we as missionaries went for money, there is not enough money in the world to induce us to live amid the depressing influences of heathenism, but

when we consider that it is for Christ's sake and feel the necessity, we willingly, yea, gladly undertake the service for him."

Thus wrote our dear Dr. Terry upon her return to China for the second term of service. It is because she is so actuated by the spirit of Christ that she is so blessed of God in her work and so dearly loved by both Chinese and Americans.

Dr. Edna G. Terry was born September 4, 1857. She studied for three years in Northfield Seminary and was graduated from Boston University School of Medicine in 1886. She was appointed to North China, and arrived in Tsunhua in 1887, the first representative of the W. F. M. S.

Her call to the work came suddenly and unexpectedly, but was so clear that she says: "No matter what hindrance or discouragements have come, I have never been troubled by the question, 'Was it right to come?'"

Her fellow workers thank God that He sent them so skilful and devoted a helper — "true as steel" and "pure gold." Eminently successful as a worker and physician, Dr. Terry ever remembers the priceless soul and frankly says: "No part of the work gives me more satisfaction than the opportunity afforded for evangelistic work among the women."

When the station has been short of workers, she has given efficient service in Training and City Day School work, and for years has superintended our Country Day Schools, and at times with characteristic unselfishness she has even taken the Boarding

School accounts, when the one in charge has through ill-health been unable to carry alone the ever growing and unceasing work of that department.

Into hundreds of homes has our doctor gone as an angel of mercy, while thousands have come to her for healing.

Perhaps the work she loves best is in the country at the temple fairs, where the secluded women are allowed by custom to come. In the temple itself, under a booth, in the chapel, or in the home of a Christian near by, she dispenses her medicine — while her faithful Bible Women assist in giving the Bread of Life to those who come or medicine. In this way many hearts and homes are reached. Often in the homes she visits, women say to her, “I saw and heard you in such a temple.”

In the early summer of 1900 we were all startled by the false report in the daily papers that Dr. Terry had been murdered at the hands of the cruel Boxers, and it was not for several months that an exact knowledge of her whereabouts, was known in this country.

The last of May she left her station in Tsunhua for Peking, to attend the Annual Conference of our Mission. After the session was over she made preparations to leave Peking on June 4th, but circumstances prevented her taking what proved to be the last train out from that doomed city. During the summer, until the 15th of August she shared all the privations and fiery trials of the other foreigners who were shut within those hostile walls. When relief came to the legations she continued her prep-

arations, so suddenly cut off in the spring, for coming home to America for a well-deserved and much-needed change. A month of brief rest was taken in Japan, made necessary by the over-crowded condition of the steamers, and she arrived in this country about the middle of October.

The meeting of the Executive Committee this autumn was especially inspiring because of the presence of so many missionaries, but a great wave of joy and enthusiasm rolled over the audience when we again met Dr. Terry face to face. Truly, like women of old, we had "received our dead raised to life again." Her worn face told us more eloquently than words the pathetic story of storm and siege, and no one who heard her voice could doubt that in those fearful days God had indeed been to her a "sanctuary in the midst of the heathen."

As a Branch we thank God for Dr. Terry's safe return, and with glad hearts bring our Thank Offerings to support her and her beautiful work for our Chinese sisters, looking forward to the great day when the King who commanded us to "heal the sick" shall say, "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one . . . of these . . . ye did it unto me."



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